



# ARANSAS PASS CITY NEWS

Issue 40

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## City of Aransas Pass Employee of the Year

At the Annual Chamber of Commerce Banquet on January 29th, Mayor Ram Gomez presented Jeffrey A. Burkhead with the 2020 City of Aransas Pass Employee of the Year award. Jeff has worked at the Public Works Department since January 2018 and has quickly moved up the ranks into a leadership position. Fernando Quintanilla, Director of Public Works had this to say about Jeff, "Despite being a single parent of two daughters in elementary school and managing a crew of nine, Jeff is always at work on time and goes above and beyond every day. He is someone you can always count on no matter the time of day. His staff respects him and seeks him out when they have questions. He has shaped his department to be independent and reliable when performing work without supervision. Jeff continues to map and correct existing utility maps as new utilities are discovered. Jeff has helped develop processes for performing work and documenting water loss. His staff has become very efficient at identifying and addressing water breaks and stop sewers. He continues to pursue higher education and certification as it pertains to field of work. Jeff is a true asset to the City of Aransas Pass and we are very fortunate to have him on our team."

Congratulations Jeff!



## City Council Approves Extension of Concrete Apron at Conn Brown Harbor Boat Ramps

The original concrete aprons in front of the boat ramps are only 25 feet. This presents a problem because potholes keep appearing in the asphalt approach area since that is where all of the maneuvering occurs when launching or pulling out boats. To address the issue work has begun to extend the concrete aprons an additional 50 feet for the entire width of the boat ramps. The City Council felt that this would be the ideal time for this project due to the ongoing street reconstruction and parking lot overlay through the EDA grant. See Pic to the Right.



## City's First Responders Receive First Round of COVID-19 Vaccine

A total of 8 first round vaccines were given to Police and Fire Department staff. This represents a total of 14% of the total staff who are eligible and who were offered a vaccine in the Phase 1B rollout to front-line essential workers at this time.

## Harbormaster Building at Conn Brown Harbor is Erected

Work on the Harbormaster Building at Conn Brown Harbor is continuing and should be completed by early spring. Right now the building is getting dried in and insulation is being installed. The building is 90% funded by FEMA and the State is picking up 75% of the remaining 10% balance to be covered by the City. The cost to the City is \$16,355 out of the \$654,224 total cost of the building. The former Harbormaster building blew away during Hurricane Harvey. See Pic Below.



## Status of COVID-19 Vaccines in Aransas Pass

According to Lynn Pearce, EOC Director, "At this time we only have two providers. HEB and Walgreens. They are only giving the vaccine to 1A and 1B. Below is all the info and helpful links."

### Who can get vaccinated now?

- Our goal while vaccine supply is limited is to quickly vaccinate as many health care workers, residents of long-term care facilities, and people at risk of severe illness or death from COVID-19 as possible. Vaccine providers are encouraged to prioritize health care workers but can start vaccinating people in Phase 1B if they have vaccine available after vaccinating all available and willing people in Phase 1A. DSHS has posted additional guidance for vaccine providers.

### Vaccine Availability

- Vaccine supply is still limited but new shipments of vaccine will arrive in Texas each week.
- The Texas COVID-19 Vaccine Provider Locations map shows the locations where vaccine has been sent. It will be updated weekly after the new shipments of vaccine have been shipped out to vaccine providers.

### How do I find a place to get vaccinated?

- Health care workers in Phase 1A should contact their employer about getting vaccinated. Smaller health care facilities and medical offices can reach out to large vaccine providers to arrange for vaccination of their employees. Visit the Texas COVID-19 Vaccine Provider Locations map to see which providers have received vaccine.
- People in Phase 1B may be able to get vaccinated now if vaccine providers have vaccine available after vaccinating all Phase 1A people. Visit the Texas COVID-19 Vaccine Provider Locations map to see which providers have received vaccine and contact them to find out if you can make an appointment to get vaccinated. People can check the map weekly to determine if there is a vaccine provider near them.

### Vaccine Safety

- Information gathered in large-scale clinical trials and thoroughly reviewed by scientists at the FDA shows that the vaccines are safe and effective.

### Vaccine Cost

- The vaccine will be provided free of charge to anyone who wants it. For people with insurance, insurance will cover any fee to administer it by the provider. People without insurance won't be charged.

### Can the vaccine be required?

- Getting vaccinated is voluntary, and people cannot be required to get the vaccine because it is being administered under an emergency use authorization, not as a fully licensed vaccine.

### Preventing the Spread of COVID-19

- People still need to take precautions like physical distancing and wearing a mask to help stop the spread of COVID-19 as people get vaccinated and we learn more about the immunity produced by the vaccines.

## The Holiday Meal Drive Surpasses Previous Years By More Than Double

This past holiday season, the Police Department received twice as many requests for meal kits as in years past. As a result, close to 70 holiday meals were delivered to residents of Aransas Pass. The meals included a turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing, green beans and a pie. Thank you Aransas Pass for your generosity in making the meal drive a huge success. See Pic below.



## Sgt. Anders Cops for Tots Toy Drive Makes the Holidays Brighter

Thanks to the toys and cash donations received from the community, the toy drive brightened the holidays for children in need. The Aransas Pass PD in conjunction with Crossroads Church received and fulfilled 60 toy requests for 144 children.



## City Hall, Police Department and Municipal Court Gets New Flooring

Flooring and carpeting damaged during Hurricane Harvey have been replaced with FEMA covering 90% of the cost of \$69,019.50. The State has agreed to pick up 75% of the remaining 10% of the cost. The City's out of pocket cost will be the remaining \$1,725.50 or roughly 2.5% of the total cost. See Pic to the Right.



## City of Aransas Pass Citizen Collection Center

The City of Aransas Pass operates a Citizen Collection Center three days per week. City residents may obtain a voucher at City Hall once a month for one standard pickup truck load to drop off materials at no charge.

Citizen Collection Center

361-758-3111

800 W Myrtle Ave

Hours of Operation:	
Tuesday:	8:30am - 11:30am & 1:00pm - 4:00pm
Thursday:	8:30am - 11:30am & 1:00pm - 4:00pm
Saturday:	8:30am - 4:00pm

Cost of disposal:	
Resident Truck:	\$20.00
Resident Trailer:	\$35.00
Business/Contractor & Non-Residents:	\$50.00

The following materials will **NOT** be accepted:

Explosives	Televisions (over 32")
Air conditioner unit with motors	Fax machines
Appliances with Freon	Fluorescent bulbs
Batteries	Ballast
Bulk liquids (unless tested and solidified)	Game Systems
CD players	Hazardous materials
Circuit boards	Household cleaning products
Computers	Medical equipment
Copiers	Memory cards
CPU's	Monitors
DVD's	Motors

Oil filters	Oil
Paint cans (unless empty or dry)	Railroad ties
Pressurized containers	Household garbage
Processors	Waste required by the state
Radar scanners	To be recycled
Radioactive materials	Concrete
Security systems	Brush
Tires	
Untreated medical waste	<b><u>*Transfer Station will close if dumpsters get full at anytime</u></b>
VCR's	
Electronics	

## CONTACT US

Aransas Pass City News is published by the City of Aransas Pass, TX. If you would like to subscribe or unsubscribe call: 361-758-5301.

## WHO ARE YOUR CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS?

Mayor Ram Gomez

Carrie Scruggs—Place 1

Jason Knight—Place 2

Mayor Pro-Tem Jan Moore—Place 3

Vickie Abrego—Place 4

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## Aransas Pass Now Under Stage 1 Water Restrictions



### City of Aransas Pass

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Aransas Pass, TX

Office: (361) 758-4854

### STAGE 1 RESPONSE – MILD WATER SHORTAGE CONDITION

During Stage 1, achieve a 10% reduction in daily treated water demand relative to treated water demand with the water use restrictions below.

#### Water Use Restrictions for Reducing Demand

Under threat of penalty for violation, the following water use restrictions shall apply to all persons during Stage 1:

- (a) Irrigation of landscaped areas with hose-end sprinklers or automatic irrigation systems shall be limited to once per week. The watering schedule will be determined by the City Manager or designee. Customers will be made aware of their designated watering day in accordance with Section 9. However, irrigation of landscaped areas is permitted on any day if it is by means of a hand-held hose (with positive shutoff nozzle), a faucet filled bucket or watering can of five (5) gallons or less, or drip irrigation system with a positive shutoff device. Exceptions for this restriction may be permitted, upon review and approval by the City Manager or designee, for the following uses: new plantings (for up to 60 days), vegetable gardens, athletic playing fields, and botanical gardens. In addition, this restriction does not apply to customers irrigating with well water or an aerobic septic system. Customers irrigating with well water or an aerobic septic system must apply for a permit from the City Utility Department to be prominently posted on the premises within two (2) feet of the street number located on the premises.

The watering schedule for Stage 1 is:

- Tuesday – Even number residences
- Wednesday – Odd number residences
- Thursday – Multifamily and commercial

- (b) Use of water from hydrants shall be limited to fire fighting, related activities, or other activities necessary to maintain public health, safety, and welfare, except that use of water from designated fire hydrants for construction purposes may be allowed under special permit from the City of Aransas Pass Utility Department.

- (c) Use of water to maintain integrity of building foundations is limited to designated watering days and is only permitted by use of hand-held hose or drip irrigation.